DOCKET NO.: 292993US26PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Taro YAMAMOTO, et al.

SERIAL NO.: NEW U.S. PCT APPLICATION

FILED: HEREWITH

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.: PCT/JP04/19415 INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE: December 24, 2004 FOR: DEVELOPING DEVICE AND DEVELOPING METHOD

REQUEST FOR PRIORITY UNDER 35 U.S.C. 119 AND THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Commissioner for Patents Alexandria, Virginia 22313

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application for patent, notice is hereby given that the applicant claims as priority:

COUNTRY Japan

APPLICATION NO

DAY/MONTH/YEAR

26 December 2003

Certified copies of the corresponding Convention application(s) were submitted to the International Bureau in PCT Application No. PCT/JP04/19415. Receipt of the certified copy(s) by the International Bureau in a timely manner under PCT Rule 17.1(a) has been acknowledged as evidenced by the attached PCT/IB/304.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Customer Number

22850

(703) 413-3000 Fax No. (703) 413-2220 (OSMMN 08/03)

Steven P. Weihrouch Attorney of Record Registration No. 32,829

Surinder Sachar

Registration No. 34,423